

NOW IN ITS BIG NEW HOME

Omaha Printing Co. Moves Plant to Thirteenth and Farnam.

GROWTH OF THE BUSINESS

Equipment Complete in All of Its Appointments, with the Most Modern Appliances for Doing Work.

The Omaha Printing company is now at home in its new and modern building at Thirteenth and Farnam streets. As an independent concern the Omaha Printing company came into existence early in the '90s, and much earlier if its connection with the Omaha Daily Republican, a newspaper out of which it grew, is taken into consideration.

The Omaha Republican, one of the first daily papers established in Nebraska, had a job plant in connection with the newspaper and of the business. For several years before it suspended publication the Republican frequently changed owners, dying on the hands of the late Jeremiah C. Wilcox, early in the summer of 1890.

Some time prior to that, however, the paper had been sold to Casper E. Yost and Fred Nye, and they in turn sold it to Wilcox, F. L. Fisher taking the job plant. Fisher in turn sold this to Fred Nye and Frank E. Johnson, who later organized the Omaha Printing company.

The Omaha Printing company occupied the Republican building at Tenth and Douglas streets, and then moved to the Strang building, Tenth and Farnam streets, the present location, vacated when a final move was made to the new home at Thirteenth and Farnam streets.

In 1901 Frank L. Ellick came to the Omaha Printing company as general manager. As a boy he had been with the Hammond Printing company at Fremont, but prior to this he had been vice president and general manager of the M. P. Ellick company of Dallas, Tex., and still prior to this was general superintendent of the W. B. Conkey company at Hammond, Ind., and Chicago.

New Department Added. Recently the Omaha Printing company established an accounting and loose leaf department, under the management of M. D. Tark, formerly of Detroit. He is an expert in office systems, and goes into offices and systemizes the system of accounting and filing free of charge. Incidentally he sells what supplies are needed to make the office a modern one, but when he charges an office \$100 for fixtures and filing cases he saves as many hundred dollars worth of useless work and bunglesome operations performed before. This is a new departure in printing establishments in the west. Mr. Tark is also a systematizer of municipal bookkeeping.

C. C. Cope is manager of the stationery and office furniture department. He has been with the company twenty-five years, starting as an errand boy. He is today recognized as one of the best stationery and office furniture men in the country. Clinton Miller is superintendent of the manufacturing department. He has been with the company three years. He was formerly with Miller & Jamieson.

R. B. Ballman is in charge of the railroad printing department. He has been with this and the old printing company forty years.

Thirteen years ago the Omaha Printing company was doing about \$25,000 of business annually. Now it is doing \$700,000 annually, covering twenty-two states and territories. Besides this, it does a large mail order business, issuing over 25,000 catalogues.

Ordinarily the company has five traveling men upon the road and four city salesmen working in Omaha.

After occupying the Tenth and Farnam street location nearly twenty-one years, the Omaha Printing company has just moved into the new building at Thirteenth and Farnam streets, known as the Omaha Printing Company building, a modern seven-story, reinforced concrete building, built by George A. Joslyn on the specifications of the Omaha Printing company, which has taken a lease on the building for twenty-five years, with the privilege of renewal.

Moving in Completed. So quietly and systematically, however, was the moving accomplished, that not a day and not an hour was lost in the operation of the plant.

While one of the big cylinder presses was being moved to the new location several others were kept at work in the old building. While one part of the steel and copperplate department was being moved, another was casting plates at the old plant and while a part of the type setting department was being moved another was at work in the old building, so that now that the moving is practically completed, there stands in the racks in the new building 5,000 galleys of matter ready for use.

The new building is said to be perfect so far as light, ventilation and sanitation are concerned. It is fireproof and on each of the seven floors a solid wall of window lights runs around the east and north sides. So soft is this light, by means of a dim glass, that although the light is perfect, it does not hurt the eyes, even when one faces the windows. So soft too is this light, that while it gives perfect light, it is so universally diffused over the building that not a shadow is cast anywhere on any floor.

Every employe has a steel locker for his clothing. A sprinkling system for fire prevention is installed and fountains of city water are provided for drinking purposes. Men's and women's toilet rooms are on each floor and are built for the best of sanitation.

Plenty of Elevators. There are four elevators, one a large freight elevator and another is an electric dummy. Another is the passenger elevator and the fourth is the street elevator carrying goods from the basement stock room to the sidewalk for shipment.

The seventh or upper floor of the building is the furniture storeroom, where is kept the supply of furniture, office furniture, handled by the company. Much of this is kept packed for shipment just as it arrived. Thus it is always ready to go out to fill an order at any time.

The sixth floor is the composing room and type factory, where the men set type and make up the forms. The type factory fills orders all over this and many of the other western states.

The fifth floor is occupied by the lithographic, steel and copper plate departments. Here are also eight cylinder presses and six job presses.

The third floor is given over to the bindery. The second floor is the sales room for the office furniture and the first floor is the retail store and office floor, while the basement is the shipping room where the paper, stationery and other stocks are kept.

The Omaha Printing company is now a retail, as well as a wholesale and manufacturing establishment.

"We are going into the retail end strong," said General Manager Ellick.

"and we are going to carry a fine line of fancy stationery, monogram goods and wedding stationery. This will be in a special department hereafter, which is something new with us. We have never given over a department to this before."

HAS ALL MODERN MACHINERY

Omaha Printing Company Equipped with Six Cylinder Presses.

It is doubtful if anywhere in the United States there is an office equipped with better and more modern machinery than that of the Omaha Printing company. Since the organization of the company it has been the aim of the officers to keep pace with the times and purchase and install the newest machines of all kinds as fast as they came upon the market, going upon the theory that with the best of machinery there would be a saving in expense and a corresponding improvement in the character of the work.

The press rooms of the Omaha Printing company are equipped with six gi-

gantio presses, all cylinders and the largest capable of printing a 4x6 1/2 inch sheet. In moving into the new building, two Miehle presses, the best that can be bought, have been installed. They are so perfect and the registration is so close that they will print anything from the largest sheet to a visiting card and do perfect work on either.

Fine Job Presses.

Besides the large presses, the company operates a battery of five one-fourth medium 12x16 jobbers and one 18x24 Universal. These jobbers are set tandem and occupy space at the north end of the big room on the fifth floor of the building.

Each press has its own individual electric motor, as does every other piece of machinery of the plant. There are no line shafts carrying a multitude of pulleys, consequently there can never be any breakdown that will put the machinery out of commission.

In addition to the presses for doing ordinary work, the company has a litho-

graph press, said to be the best one outside of New York. On this is printed bonds and this character of work, all the engraving on the stones being done in the plant. Then, too, there is the copper plate press, on which is printed from engravings in copper all kinds of wedding stationery, programs, invitations and announcements. This press is practically new and is one of the largest and best in the country.

Embossing Machines.

There are three steel plate embossing machines of different sizes and they print sheets of any size from the smallest monogram to a full sized letter-head. It

has an automatic feed, as does the litho-graph press.

The bindery on the third floor of the building is complete in itself and is of a capacity to handle any job that comes to it. It specializes in blank book work and does a large business in regular book binding. One feature of this department of the plant is the loose leaf crimper, a machine that rubs the heavy sheets of paper used in blank books until they will lie flat, without injuring the surface of the paper.

On this floor are the index machines, all of which run automatically, as do the numbering and paging machines, as well as the punches. The punches, or at least

two of them, are new inventions, as they punch slot, as well as round holes in the thinnest sheet, or in blocks of paper up to a thickness of several inches.

Three Folding Machines.

The paper cutters and ruling machines are models of perfection. In the battery of cutters is one of the largest machines made, taking a sheet sixty inches in width. There are three folding machines, one that will handle a sheet 6x62 inches, while the smallest will fold down to six inches square. They are run by their own individual motors.

Six linotypes are constantly in use, as is one monotype machine, the linotype machines being equipped with magazines

carrying six faces each, including everything from five and one-half-point to twelve-point faces. The monotype is used for the highest grade work and always prints from new faces, the type coming from the type-casting machine that has matrices for more than 300 faces.

A Literary Axiom.

"Good writers make poor money. The loftiest literary aim leads to the attic. It is the commonplace alone who become best sellers."

The speaker was Ripley Hitchcock, the essayist, critic and editor of New York. He added, smiling: "The man with the true literary bent is always broke."—Washington Star.

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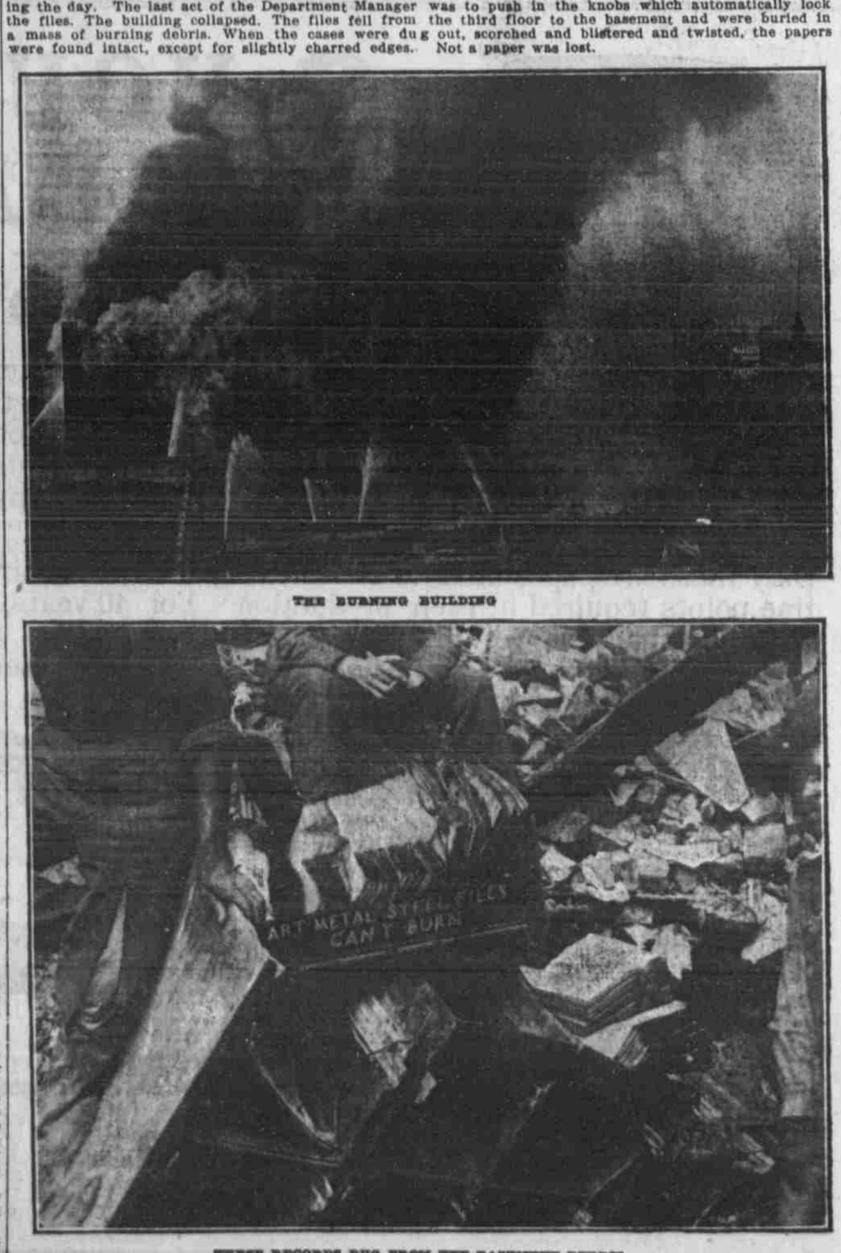
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